

Queen Victoria - The 'Jubilee' Issue (1887-1900).

When the remainder of the 'Unified' series of postage stamps was issued on 1st April 1884, the 9d value having been introduced some eight months earlier on 1st August 1883, there was a public outcry regarding the similarity in their design causing difficulty in readily telling one value from another. More important was the fact that Post Office personnel also found it difficult to check that the correct postage had been paid, so potentially significant revenue could be lost.

To remedy this, brightly coloured stamps, some in bi-colour, some on coloured papers, were experimented with by the printers, De La Rue, resulting in the so-called 'Jubilee' issue. The issue was not intended to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Queen Victoria's succession to the throne, it just happened that they were first issued in her Jubilee year, on the *1st January 1887*.



4,408 dies



2,211 dies



1,730 dies



3,255 dies



2,029 dies



1,141 dies



1,234 dies



1,391 dies



255 dies



612 dies

A new *10d* denomination was added to the series on *24th February 1890*, closely followed by the *4½d* on *15th September 1892*.



294 dies



540 dies

A change of colour to blue-green for the ½d value was made in 1900 to comply with the Universal Postal Union colour scheme regulations. As a result, the colour of the 1/- stamp was also changed to a bi-colour to avoid confusion with the new colour of the ½d stamp. The new *½d stamp* was issued on *17th April 1900*, and the new *1/- stamp* on *11th July 1900*.



3,101 dies



291 dies

The same basic information is presented below in tabular form. Please note that the categories involving question marks are the result of incomplete recording in the late 1980's and early 1990's of the colour involved. It is hoped that 'in the fullness of time' these will all be resolved and assigned their correct colour.

TOTALS for issue 'E'				
	DD			DDF
Overall >	6,647			22,523
	5,403	½d		
			½d colour ??	3
			½d Vermilion	4,408
			½d Blue-green	3,101
		1½d	Purple & green	2,211
		2d	Green & red	1,730
		2½d	Purple on blue	3,255
		3d	Purple on yellow	2,029
		4d	Green & brown	1,141
		4½d	Green & red	540
		5d	Purple & blue	1,234
		6d	Purple on red	1,391
		9d	Purple & blue	255
		10d	Purple & red	294
	772	1/-		
			1/- colour ??	28
			1/- Green	612
			1/- Green & red	291

The above table summarises *all known G.B. Perfin dies* found on the *Queen Victoria 'Jubilee' Issue* - correct to *1st July 2018*.
In view of the large quantities involved, no specific list of Perfin dies has been included.

When Queen Victoria died on 22nd January 1901, the throne passed to her eldest son, Edward, Prince of Wales, who became King Edward VII.

Designs for a new series of stamps portraying an image of the King were worked on almost immediately, but the first four values, *½d*, *1d*, *2½d*, and *6d*, were not issued until *1st January 1902*. With the exception of the *4½d* value, which was discontinued until it re-appeared in 1959, the remaining stamps were progressively replaced between *March and July 1902*.